
Ephesians 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

John 10:17 "The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life--only to take it up again.

¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

Key: pg 3: debt; paid; absorbed; lap; gets; gives.

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How to Develop a Forgiving Heart

Stories to Be Shaped by- part 1

Matthew 18:15-35; Matthew 6:12-15

March 27, 2016

Matthew 6:12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹⁴For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

¹⁵But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 18:21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Matthew 18:22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

The Master of forgiveness: two billion dollars!

Matthew 18:23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a

king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.

Matthew 18:25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

Matthew 18:26 "The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'

Matthew 18:27 The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

The monster of unforgiveness

Matthew 18:28 But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii.

Matthew 18:28b He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

Matthew 18:29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

Matthew 18:30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

Matthew 18:31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

The moral obligation of mercy and forgiveness

Matthew 18:32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

Important lessons about forgiveness:

- A humongous _____ is cancelled.
- A debt was cancelled **not** because the debt was _____ by the debtor.
- The debt was _____ by the forgiver.
- Forgiveness lies in the _____ of the forgiver.

Matthew 18:33 **Shouldn't you have had** mercy on your fellow servant **just as I had on you?**

He who _____ mercy must _____ mercy!

Matthew 18:34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

Matthew 21:35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."
